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BULLETIN

of the National Tuberculosis Association

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We're Moved! At 450 Seventh Avenue—our airy sunshiny new quarters—we shall be glad to welcome our old and new friends. On the northwest corner of Seventh Avenue and 34th Street we are on the 12th floor with light on three sides and clean paint on everything.

Fighting Tuberculosis in Porto Rico

Miss Jessamine S. Whitney has just returned from a several months' stay in Porto Rico where she assisted in organizing the local forces into strong tuberculosis associations ready to combat this disease, which is the greatest health problem in the Island at the present time.

When Miss Whitney reached the Island there were only about a dozen tuberculosis associations and committees already organized. Only two of them were really working actively. No one committee knew what the other was doing and there was no thought of a general tuberculosis program. By the time Miss Whitney left the Island, these isolated committees had been affiliated into the Porto Rico Tuberculosis Association, and at least a dozen more local associations had been organized. The Porto Rico Tuberculosis Association now has an office donated by the Commissioner of Health, a part-time executive secretary, who is paid by the National Tuberculosis Association, and

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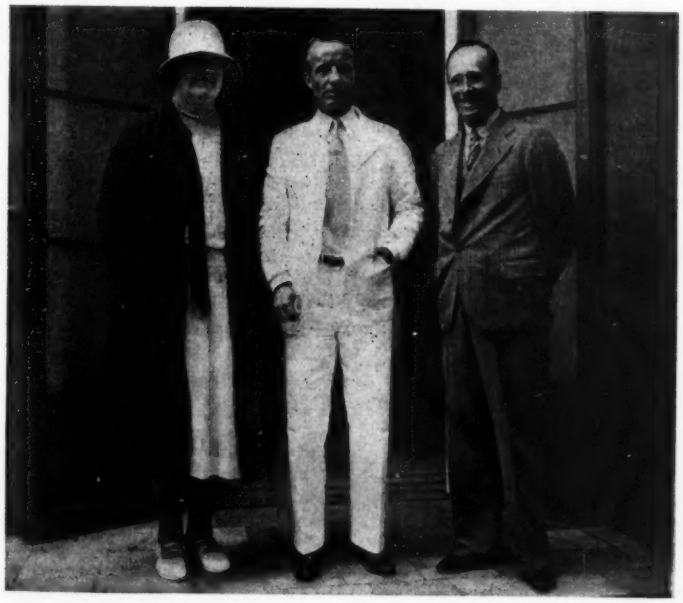

Three of the persons most interested in tuberculosis work in Porto Rico—the Hon. Theodore Roosevelt, Governor; Doctor Fernos, the Commissioner of Health of the Island, and Miss Jessamine S. Whitney, Statistician of the National Tuberculosis Association

Christmas Seal Consultation Service at Syracuse

Since Christmas seal discussions will be condensed into Monday, May 11, at the Syracuse meeting, Mr. Newcomb announces that a Christmas Seal Consultation Service will be available to all those attending the annual meeting. Suitable quarters have been arranged for group meetings. Individual consultations may also be arranged by appointment. The room will be available to groups especially interested in informally discussing Christmas seal problems. See your program for the place of meeting.

Christmas Seal Trailer

The 1931 Christmas seal sound trailer is now in the hands of state secretaries for preview. Its title is "Merry Christmas." The first portion is animated and shows Santa Claus in a sleigh on the side of which is a large Christmas seal. As he gallops across the housetops he cracks his whip in the eye of the moon and the stars break into Merry Christmas. This scene dissolves into a full screen seal which in turn comes to life and shows William H. Vanderbilt driving his coach "Venture" through a snow-covered landscape. As the coach pulls up in front of the manor house, a handsome young woman descends from the box and tells the people why they should buy Christmas seals. The picture closes with another view of the Christmas seal. The sound effects are remarkably good.

There will be an opportunity for everyone to see this trailer at Syracuse.

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Bulletin

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ELIZABETH COLE - *Executive Editor*

Entered as second-class matter, October 21, 1914, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Returned from Drought Stricken Oklahoma

Instancing the cordial relations between the American Red Cross and the National Tuberculosis Association was the loan of Arthur J. Strawson, Field Secretary, in February to assist the Red Cross in setting up its national relief in the state of Oklahoma.

Mr. Strawson was assigned to establish and perfect national relief in five of the most drought-stricken Oklahoma counties on the Arkansas border. These counties included many full blooded and other members of the Five Civilized Nations of Indians, namely the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctahs, Chickasaws and Seminoles. The condition of Indians in the drought area is peculiarly harsh because while they have relinquished their Indian ways of living and while all game has been practically eliminated, they have not learned the art of farming, gardening, nor the raising of domestic animals on their unhappy lands.

In some of these counties, after setting up three or four food dispensing stations under the supervision of the county chapter, Mr. Strawson conducted pantry surveys in the most remote hilly sections of the counties with the aid of U. S. Indian service men and cars. These surveys frequently discovered families, including several children, where there was no food beyond a little flour, some baking powder and lard. A flat kind of bread is made with the flour, eaten with the aid of white gravy made from lard and flour. Practically no dairy products, vegetables, nor fruit could be found in the homes of the drought victims. It was a revelation to discover how inexpensively tenant farmers usually live in many of these sections. The Red Cross ration consisted of a greater variety of diet than many tenants and Indians had previously used but was still below a suitable American standard of living.

Obviously drought relief is only a small part of the educational and economic relief which should be established in these sections. A silver lining to the disaster is a movement on the part of the Indians themselves, led by Mr. Ben Dwight of Durant, Oklahoma, to establish a more suitable education to continue the work started by the relief of the Red Cross, the Will Roger's Fund and the various state and federal relief funds, when these have ceased to function.

Secretaries' Meetings

Monday, May 11, at Syracuse, the National Conference of Tuberculosis Secretaries will meet in three sections throughout the day. Mr. Dewees of Pennsylvania will be chairman of the state secretaries' meeting. Mr. Coleman of the Hudson County Tuberculosis League (New Jersey) will be chairman of the large city secretaries' meeting, and Mrs. Wyatt of the Grant County Tuberculosis League (Indiana) of the small cities' meeting. All these meetings will adjourn promptly at 12:30 to merge into a Christmas seal luncheon under the chairmanship of Mr. T. J. Edmonds. The luncheon will be followed at 2:30 by the sectional meetings until 4:00 P. M., when the annual meeting of the National Conference of Tuberculosis Secretaries will be held.

After-Care

Through cooperation with the New York School of Social Work, a graduate student, Miss Effie Marie Ross, has been assigned by the School to the After-Care Service of the National Tuberculosis Association. Miss Ross is a graduate of George Washington University with an M.A. from American University. Since 1924 she has been medical social worker under the American Red Cross at Walter Reed Hospital. Miss Ross, during these three months, will be engaged in various activities of the After-Care Service with the especially designed project of developing an educational program at Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, New York.

Saranac Lake Issue

The Saranac Lake (May) issue of the *Journal of the Outdoor Life* has proved to be most attractive and unique. With a striking symbolic cover of the "Little Red" in red and yellow, this 112 page magazine is filled with historic and valuable illustrations of Saranac Lake from the early days to the present time. There are several beautiful pages of such pictures as "The Mauve Decade," "A Garden in the Mountains," "Winter Sports," "Adirondack Scenery," and the articles are by such well known authors that it will be a souvenir worthy of preserving.

Copies of the magazine will be on sale at the annual meeting in Syracuse or they may be secured from the *Journal of the Outdoor Life,* 450 Seventh Avenue, New York City, for 25 cents a copy.

Institute at Ann Arbor

The only institute in 1931 will be held at Ann Arbor June 29 to July 11. The course as outlined promises to be one of unusual excellence. Anyone interested should write for a descriptive circular to National Tuberculosis Association.

Death of Dr. Kober

The many friends of Dr. George M. Kober, a founder and a former president and secretary of the National Tuberculosis Association, will be sorry to learn of his death from heart disease at the age of 81 on April 24, in Washington, D. C. As creator of the Kober Foundation, and Professor and Dean of Georgetown University (School of Medicine), as President of the District of Columbia Tuberculosis Association, and a former Assistant Surgeon General of the Army, Dr. Kober has been for fifty-eight years an internationally recognized leader, not only in the tuberculosis field, but in all health work.

Using E. D. C.

Wise county tuberculosis associations are making great use of the Early Diagnosis Campaign in training volunteers and in perfecting county-wide organization. To assign to local leaders who should be interested, pieces of community work not connected with fund raising is proving most helpful.

One of the New Posters

The above chanticleer is one of the four new colorful posters recently issued by the National Tuberculosis Association. It is in seven colors—the rooster is black, comb and legs red and yellow, yellow background and lettering, green field. This poster and the three others may be ordered from your state tuberculosis and health association. An illustrated descriptive circular will be sent upon request.

In Porto Rico

(*Continued from page* 17)

sufficient funds donated by the local committees to carry on a general educational program throughout the Island.

Miss Whitney reports that the death rate from tuberculosis in Porto Rico is nearly 300 per 100,000 and that it has been increasing during the last six or eight years. There are actually about 4,500 deaths from tuberculosis a year and only a little over 500 beds to care for tuberculous patients. Only a beginning has been made in combating this disease and much remains to be done. The most crying need now is beds for isolation of advanced cases, so that contagion may not spread to children in such families.

Doctor Crumbine, Executive Director of the American Child Health Association, who returned April 20 from a two months' stay in Porto Rico, says that "tuberculosis . . . is literally epidemic in Porto Rico." The Island is too poor to supply all the needed institutions itself and aid must be given from outside sources if the epidemic is to be checked.

Demonstration Reports

The reports on the Child Health Demonstrations of the Commonwealth Fund which have terminated recently in Clarke County and Athens, Georgia, Marion County, Oregon, and Rutherford County, Tennessee, are now available in book form, and are delightfully written in narrative vein.

"A Chapter of Child Health" is the title of the report on Clarke County and Athens, Georgia. The appraisal, by Dr. W. F. Walker of the American Public Health Association of the work done in this area, is very heartening, showing in cold figures, how vast an amount of improvement took place during the 5 years from 1923-1928, under the stimulation of the Demonstration.

"Children of the Covered Wagon" tells of the march of health progress in Marion County, Oregon. The plan followed by the Demonstration is described under the headings "Sanitation," "Preventing Epidemics," "Guarding Health" and "Teaching Health." Dr. Estella Warner and Geddes Smith, co-authors, have presented an encouraging picture of health work in the northwest.

"Cross-Sections of Rural Health Progress," by Dr. Harry Mustard, describes the program in Rutherford County, Tennessee. Dr. Mustard was the director of the Demonstration during the full five-year period and his familiarity with the developments in the work throughout the Demonstration is manifest in his account of the health activities promoted throughout the county. In the Foreword, Dr. Bishop, Health Commissioner of Tennessee, pays tribute to the accomplishments of this Demonstration in the following words:

> "That success has in large measure been attained by the demonstration is proved by its influence on the public health program of the state as a whole, by its stimulus to similar methods of approach in the fields of both technical and administrative methods, and by the fact that it has been continued as the county health department of the local community with adequate financing, the last being an evidence of successful achievement as measured by that most sensitive index—the public pocketbook."

All three volumes are attractively printed and illustrated and will prove valuable reference books for all interested in the development of rural health work.

The Hague in 1932

The International Union Against Tuberculosis has announced that its Eighth Conference will be held at The Hague and Amsterdam, Holland, September 6 to 9, 1932.

Delegates from the United States will have an unusual opportunity in 1932 to sail from New York at especially low rates and proceed directly to the meeting. The National Tuberculosis Association has made arrangements with the Red Star Line to reserve space for a special party to sail on the S. S. Westernland, August 27, 1932, arriving in Antwerp, Belgium, on September 5.

An attendance of 55 persons from the United States at the Seventh Conference in Oslo last August, 1930, would indicate that with these special rates and conveniences a party of more than 100 delegates will go to the Holland meeting.

The Westernland is one of two boats operated by the Red Star Line with tourist class as the highest class. The out of season tourist rate for the round trip on the Westernland will be arranged and only a slight additional charge is to be made for outside rooms on A Deck or for rooms with baths. A folder giving rates and further details will be available at the annual meeting in Syracuse.

The Executive Committee of the Union, meeting in Paris on January 9, decided to hold the open session on Tuesday, September 6. The scientific sessions will be held on September 7, 8 and 9, those on the last day to be held in Amsterdam. The Council of the Union will meet in Paris next July 8 and 9 to make final decisions as to the subjects to be discussed at the Conference. Dr. Eugene L. Opie will represent the United States at the Council meeting.

Dr. Kendall Emerson and also a number of others have already signified their intention of joining the party. Plans are being made for brief talks on the Netherlands and the work of the International Union to be given on board the Westernland. Tentative reservations may be made at any time and the Executive Office will be ready to make actual bookings with the Red Star Line by October 1. Correspondence is invited with F. D. Hopkins, Executive Secretary, 450 Seventh Avenue, N. Y.

About People

In the Field

Dr. Franz von Groer, Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Lemberg, Poland, recently concluded a six weeks' program of clinics and lectures in Chicago. He is now making a tour of seventeen other American cities where he is scheduled to appear before medical societies, universities and similar organizations. His programs are chiefly devoted to childhood tuberculosis.

The Missouri Public Health Association will hold its annual meeting in Jefferson City, May 4 to 6.

Miss Helen H. Thompson, executive secretary of the Delaware Anti-Tuberculosis Society, has resigned, her resignation becoming effective on May 1.

Mrs. Robert S. Phifer, executive secretary of the Mississippi Tuberculosis Association, resigned on April 17. Logan H. McLain has been appointed her successor. Doyle Hinton, as a special field representative on the staff of the National Association, will serve for about three months in Mississippi.

Dr. H. R. Edwards, formerly Medical Field Secretary of the National Tuberculosis Association and more recently Director of the Bureau of Tuberculosis in New Haven, Connecticut, has been chosen medical superintendent for Delwood, the county tuberculosis sanatorium to be built by Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

At the Palmer Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Springfield, Illinois, a new section has been added marking a change in the public attitude toward tuberculosis. Non-tuberculous persons suffering from certain chronic diseases and convalescing from surgery and other serious illness will be housed in this new section. Care of this kind will be better and more economically provided here than in a general hospital.

The Tuberculosis Society of Oklahoma City has on hand twenty Eskimo suits and boots which were used in their open air school in 1923. Any one interested in these suits should write to the Society at 1200 North Walker, Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Staff

Dr. Emerson will attend the meeting of the western section of the American Public Health Association in Seattle May 28, 29, and 30. On his return he will stop in Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota.

Dr. Emerson, Mr. Hopkins, and Mr. Strawson will represent the National Tuberculosis Association in Minnesota at the National Conference of Social Work the week of June 14. A tuberculosis luncheon will be held June 18.

Mr. Schaeffer has been making a field trip in Pennsylvania, Indiana, West Virginia, Tennessee, Massachusetts and Maine.

New Publications

A new publication of the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care, 910 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., is "Illness and Dependency," by Frank J. Bruno, head of the Department of Social Work, Washington University. It is No. 9 of the series by this Committee.

The Connecticut Tuberculosis Commission has recently issued a report for the period beginning July 1, 1928, and ending June 30, 1930. It is attractively illustrated and contains, among other interesting material, a discussion on B. C. G. and the surgical treatment of tuberculosis as practiced in the state sanatorium of Connecticut.

A most attractively printed booklet telling of the Palama Settlement's work for 1930 in Honolulu, has been received. The director of this work is Philip S. Platt, Ph.D.

Colorado Report

A report of the Committee on Tuberculosis of the Twenty-seventh General Assembly of Colorado, issued by the Colorado Tuberculosis Association, is worthy of comment. Not only is the sixty-page booklet with cover attractively printed, but the subject matter is presented in concise, summarized form. Miss Mary Forbes, R.N., Miss Ruth Phillips, R.N., and Miss Helen L. Burke of the Colorado Tuberculosis Association aided in collecting and tabulating the necessary information. Miss Whitney and Miss Hill of the National Tuberculosis Association staff also assisted.

In the summary of the findings such startling information is given as that 10,389 cases of active tuberculosis were reported as having lived in Colorado sometime during 1929. This means that there was one known case of tuberculosis out of each 99 persons in the state. Twelve hundred and eighty died of tuberculosis, or one out of every eight known cases. Fifty-four per cent were residents of Colorado. Twenty-nine per cent were residents of other states. Seventeen per cent residence was unknown and 32 per cent had lived in Colorado more than five years.

Colorado has no state supported means for caring for the tuberculous. A recommendation was made among others that sanatorium care be immediately provided and that the University of Colorado School of Medicine could be useful if a tuberculosis unit could be located nearby. In this connection it is interesting to note that in Syracuse, New York, there was one case of tuberculosis to every 222 persons as compared to one case to every 99 persons in Colorado. A report of this kind should be a step forward in helping to solve the problem of tuberculosis. A copy may be secured from Colorado Tuberculosis Association, 305 Barth Building, Sixteenth and Stout Streets, Denver.

Exists Without Signs

A study has been made by Robert E. Plunkett, M.D., director, Division of Tuberculosis, of the cases examined at the diagnostic chest clinics conducted by the State Department of Health from early in 1925 to July, 1929. During this period, 19,113 examinations were made and 2,054 cases were diagnosed as positive, 1,852 of which were over fifteen years of age. Of the 1,852 positive diagnoses, 264 cases (14 per cent) had no diagnostic physical signs but definite parenchymatous changes were shown by the X-ray. The conclusions from this study reported in the *New York State Journal of Medicine*, are:

Pulmonary tuberculosis, without diagnostic physical signs, exists more commonly than is generally appreciated, even in the moderately advanced or far advanced stages. Pulmonary tuberculosis may be present even in spite of a relatively negative history. A chest roentgenogram should be obtained before a diagnosis of tuberculosis is excluded. The clinical status of patients as regards active tuberculosis cannot be determined accurately in many cases by the results of a single examination. A period of clinical study, preferably in a sanatorium, should be encouraged in all questionable cases.